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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

GERARD *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/064,057

Filed: April 22, 1998

For: **Compositions and Methods for
Reverse Transcription of Nucleic
Acid Molecules**



Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: Whisenant, E.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4330002/RWE/BJD

Reply To Restriction Requirement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated December 21, 1998, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the invention of Group V, represented by claims 26, 28, 33-34, 37, 39 and 40. This election is made without traverse, and without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed.

In making this election, Applicants assume that Group V would comprise at least claims 26-40 as originally filed, as these claims form a single chain of dependency from independent claim 26 which is the sole independent claim in Group V. In view of this assumption, Applicants further assume that new claims drawn to the subject matter contained in original claims 27, 29-32, 35, 36, and 38, which were canceled without prejudice or disclaimer in Applicants' Preliminary Amendment filed on July 13, 1998, could be entered and prosecuted in the present application. If Applicants are mistaken in making either or both of

these assumptions, the Examiner is respectfully requested to notify Applicants' undersigned representative as soon as possible.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Agent for Applicants
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Date: January 21, 1999

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